

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 153262

66

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCS-03 H-03 RSC-01 L-03 /029 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:APALMER:DJW

8/3/73 X21706

APPROVED BY AF/C - ALISON PALMER

SCS - FINNEGAN (INFO)

H - MFOLGER (INFO)

----- 003145

R 032028Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 153262

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, MA

SUBJECT: REPPAS CASE

1. CONGRESSMAN MCCLOSKEY AND STAFF AIDE VISITED AF/C AND REVIEWED REPPAS CASE IN DETAIL WITH PALMER, HAYDEN AND FINNEGAN (SCS) AUGUST 3. MCCLOSKEY WAS APPARENTLY IMPRESSED BY FACT THAT DEPT HAD NOT ONLY INFORMED REPPAS WE COULD NOT GUARANTEE HE WOULD NOT BE ARRESTED BUT ALSO WARNED HIM THAT USG ROLE AFTER ARREST WOULD BE LIMITED TO CONSULAR ACCESS AND ENSURING HE RECEIVED FAIR TREATMENT UNDER MALAGASY LAW. DIFFICULTIES IN PROCESSING COMPLEX BANKRUPTCY CASE, DELAYS OCCASIONED BY REQUESTS FOR PROVISIONAL RELEASE, AND RAVONY'S BELIEF TRIAL WOULD RESULT IN CONVICTION ALSO DISCUSSED. CREDITOR PROBLEM AND LIEBIG OFFER WERE COVERED, WITH DEPT EXPRESSING OPINION THAT GOMR UNLIKELY CONSIDER FAVORABLY ANY NEW PROPOSAL (WHICH WE UNDERSTAND JEFFRIES IS PREPARING) TO GET PLANT INTO OPERATION. MCCLOSKEY INDICATED HIS INTENTION CONTACT SWIFT REPRESENTATIVES TO GET THEIR VIEWS ON CASE.

2. MCCLOSKEY WAS INFORMED THAT DEPT NOW ADVISING
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 153262

JEFFRIES AND OTHERS MOST APPROPRIATE METHOD OF

COMMUNICATING WITH REPPAS AND/OR RAVONY IS EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH INTERESTED-PARTY TELEGRAM AND SIMILAR ADVICE BEING GIVEN BY EMBASSY TO REPPAS. DEPT WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP INFORMED ABOUT PROGRESS OF CASE BUT OBVIOUSLY MUST LEAVE TO REPRAS AND HIS ATTORNEY THE DECISIONS AS TO HOW CASE SHOULD BE HANDLED. EFFORTS TO EXPEDITE TRIAL COULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE IN VIEW RAVONY'S EXPECTATION ADVERSE DECISION. MCCLOSKEY SAID HE WISHED TO BE SURE NO POLITICAL PERSECUTION BY GOMR OF REPPAS WAS OCCURRING AND ALSO SAID REPPAS HAD WRITTEN HIM THAT STATE DEPT WAS HOSTILE TO HIM. WE EXPLAINED ANY POLITICAL ELEMENT IN CASE MINOR COMPARED TO MAJOR ISSUE OF GOMR FINANCIAL LOSS, AND NO PERSECUTION INVOLVED AS FAR AS WE COULD DETERMINE. RELATIONS GOOD BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES AND GOMR CERTAINLY NOT ANTI-AMERICAN. STATE DEPT OF COURSE HAD MADE NO JUDGEMENT AS TO MERITS OF ORIGINAL INVESTMENT OR CASE AGAINST REPPAS. AS VOLUMINOUS FILE DEMONSTRATED, BOTH EMBASSY AND DEPT HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY ACTIVE, IN INFORMING GOMR OUR INTEREST IN FAIR TREATMENT AND MEETING REPPAS' REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE. MCCLOSKEY APPEARED SATISFIED THAT IN VIEW WARNING GIVEN REPPAS' INITIALLY AND REVONY'S EXPECTATION GUILTY VERDICT, VERY LITTLE EITHER DEPT OR PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS COULD DO TO AFFECT SITUATION.

3. FYI. PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY THIS CASE NOW WITH SCS. POUCHING ADDITIONAL MATERIAL. END FYI. ROGERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE153262
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: APALMER:DJW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730858/aaaabqrq.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <27 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPPAS CASE
TAGS: CASC, MA
To: TANANARIVE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005